

The *Flame Angel* is an example of a complex and powerful spirit, a reduction of nature, who was able to affect direct change on the material plane. The form of the greater spirit itself is outlined, with the shading and coloring occurring after the outline had been completed. The *Flame Angel* was evoked in a solitary location with minimal distraction, but her coming was strong enough to guide the drawing hand without conscious intent.

Notice how the *Flame Angel* demonstrates many of the properties of spirits discussed earlier. The spirit is hierarchal. What appears upon initial observation to be a single spirit -- a winged woman with fiery hair who is reaching out with her arms and hands toward the observer -- is upon closer examination a conglomeration of numerous spirits. Each section of the drawing contains numerous embedded spirits.

The macro level spirit, the *Flame Angel* herself, is a pictorial re-presentation of a very complex and powerful memetic structure. The numerous separate spirits who together comprise her form are each pictorial re-presentations of smaller memetic structures. The *Flame Angel* is the memetic molecule; the lesser spirits are the memetic atoms which together fashion the greater molecule. A complex memetic structure like the *Flame Angel* would be very difficult to draw without utilizing automatic painting techniques. *Flame Angel* is the end result of many years, if not decades, of memetic evolution, combination, and recombination within the subconscious mind and the astral plane. Whatever the humble origins of *Flame Angel* may have been, years or decades later the result of memetic evolution was a sentient thought form capable of causing direct and measurable change within the material world on its own.

Impressive and awe-inspiring as this may be, it should be noted that *Flame Angel* undoubtedly has undergone further transformation since this book was written. She may have become more complex and potent, or simpler and devoid of real power. It is even possible she may have been destroyed or expelled from the mind in which she was birthed. But even if *Flame Angel* has been vanquished from her

original mental home, she lives on, for her picture which is printed in this book is charged. That is, the artistic rendition of *Flame Angel* possesses the potential to replicate itself within the mind of any conscious-possessing biological organism which views it.

As a fascinating side note, let us assume for theoretical sake that *Flame Angel* is able to replicate herself into the minds of 500 people who read this book. Of these 500, perhaps only 100 or so will accept her true form (accepting the true form of a spirit is the same as the successful binding of its complete memetic structure into the framework of a human mind). The other 400 people will only accept portions of her true form. The *Flame Angel* memetic structure will evolve separately within the minds of those 100 people who accept her true form. After a year or two has passed, each one of the original faithful replications of *Flame Angel* will have mutated, evolved, or devolved in 100 unique ways within 100 unique mental environments. The *Flame Angel* spirit type would thus expand out into the human population and as a result of this expansion unprecedented powers and unique forms corresponding to survival strategies within new mental environments would emerge. Of course the survival of the spirit is not guaranteed, but the evolutionary processes defining spiritual development within human minds are a fascinating subject to consider.

Theoretically spirits could evolve with the power to lead the human race into a golden age, but it is equally possible spirits could evolve which would possess the power to enslave or eliminate humanity altogether. (Remember that spirits are complex memetic structures -- albeit so complex as to have acquired conscious-like systems of their own. Many complex memetic structures are thought viruses, and thought viruses do have the potential to cause macro-scale alteration of human cultural systems.)

The most recognizable embedded spirit within any picture is the largest. In many cases the spirit who reigns at the top of a particular spiritual hierarchy is the totality of the picture drawn. In